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House Will Probe

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CIA Activity

PROBE

The chairman of the House Education and Labor Committee today announced plans for a congressional investigation of the Central Intelligence Agency's financial support of the National Student Association.

Rep. Carl D. Perkins, D-Ky., said he has asked both the CIA and NSA for full reports on the relationship between the two organizations.

Perkins said the matter would be brought before his committee for investigation when the reports are received—possibly by Feb. 28, when the next full committee meeting is scheduled.

Eight other House Democrats yesterday asked President Johnson for a full investigation "at the highest level" of the CIA's covert financial support of the country's largest college student organization from 1952 to 1966.

Both NSA officials and a State Department spokesman yesterday acknowledged the financial arrangement. Both declined to provide figures on the level of support, but the student organization was understood to have received more than \$3 million during the period.

Questions

The House members, in a letter to Johnson, asked:

"What conditions were laid down for the subsidy? What officials of NSA have been granted special treatment, including draft deferments? Are there any other student organizations with similar relations with the CIA?"

Signers of the letter were Reps. George E. Brown Jr., Phillip Burton and Don Edwards of California; William S. Rosenthal and William F. Ryan of New York; John Conyers Jr. of Michigan

At the White House, Press Secretary George Christian today referred all questions about the CIA support of student organizations to the acting secretary of state, Nicholas deB. Katzenbach.

Christian said the President referred the entire matter to Katzenbach when Douglass Cater, a special assistant to the President, reported to him recently on a discussion with a NSA leader on the association's efforts to phase out the financial aid program from CIA.

Christian said the President turned handling of the matter over to Katzenbach because of the student exchange aspects and conferences abroad involved in the situation.

"Any further statements on the matter will have to come from Katzenbach," he said.

In a related development, NSA officials disclosed that a U.S. student on a bilateral exchange program was ordered out of Poland by the State Department just prior to the disclosure of NSA's ties with the CIA.

The decision to remove the youth was made after NSA leaders told the U.S. government that it feared Polish officials or individuals might act against the student if they believed him to be a CIA agent.

The student, Roger Pulvers, 22, of Culver City, Calif., reportedly left the University of Krakow for London in recent days.

Pulvers was the only student on an NSA exchange program studying in a Communist country. He was participating in a program initiated in 1959 by NSA and its Polish counterpart, NSP, which calls for the annual exchange of graduate students.

NSA's 10-member National Student Association is based at the association's headquarters here last night to decide on the future of the organization.

"comes as a shock" to find his board "only the policymaking body on the secondary level."

Asked who he considered the primary policy-making group for NSA, Brown replied: "The CIA."

Rep. Edith F. Green, D-Ore., was equally concerned. In a statement she said:

"What is the CIA that it should be the arbiter of all that is right and just? Perhaps we need a law requiring the registration of government agencies trying to influence education, just as we have laws requiring lobbyists to register."

NSA leaders expressed concern that the disclosure and subsequent controversy might force the disbanding of the 20-year-old organization and subsequent formation of a new national union of students.

"You wake up in the morning and you're a secret agent," said one NSA staff member.

Some of the organization's leaders were advocating abandoning the group's new headquarters at 2115 S St. NW on the grounds that it was purchased for NSA by the Independence Foundation, one of several foundations used by the CIA to channel money to NSA.

State Department spokesman Robert McCloskey, in the only official government comment on the controversy thus far, said yesterday:

"We have confirmed with the CIA that, as stated by NSA yesterday (Monday), its leadership has been working over the past two years to terminate the financial relationship concerning support of NSA's international activities which began in the early 1950s.

"Even prior to that time (1965) the degree of government support had begun tapering off sharply."

Reaction on Campuses

Reaction at colleges was varied, the Associated Press reported.

At Columbia University Student Council Vice President Steve Press, of Oceanside, N.Y., said students felt "anger and distaste that CIA has been manipulating idealistic college students who are interested in international and domestic affairs."

But on the same campus, Dick Williams of Prairie Village, Kan., said he saw no reason for shock or surprise.

"I should hope our government would be keeping tabs on any organization which has international activities," he said, but added, "I think that perhaps the membership should have been informed."

At Iowa University, Student Senate President Tom Hanson said Iowa dropped out of the NSA in November 1965, because it was too far left on civil rights and international affairs and didn't pay enough attention to student and campus affairs.

Harvard law Professor Clark Byse, president of the American Association of University Professors, said the CIA "ought not to seek to intervene in a clandestine fashion with students or faculty because it would contaminate the position of those who are not involved."

"The harm done to student integrity, even more so than the faculty, far outbalances whatever intelligence benefit there would be."

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